

Section I. (Amendments to the Specification):

1. On page 4, please amend the first paragraph, as follows:

In order to adjust the contour collimator optimally to the beam path of the radiation beam, it is proposed that the longitudinal axes of at least two diaphragm elements form an angle ~~over the distance in their extent~~ from the drive ~~unit~~ units to their facing ~~side~~ sides. In this way, the diaphragm elements can be constructed conically and arranged in a fan formation, with the fan broadening in the direction of the beams being used.

2. On page 4, please amend the second paragraph, as follows:

It is advantageous if at least two diaphragm elements have the same length ~~over the distance in their extent~~ from the drive ~~unit~~ units to their facing ~~side~~ sites. Indeed, all diaphragm elements preferably have essentially the same shape, in order to reduce the costs of manufacturing the diaphragm elements and to facilitate replacement of faulty diaphragm elements.

3. On page 8, please amend the second paragraph, as follows:

The suspension of a diaphragm element is illustrated more clearly in figure 3. The entire weight of diaphragm element 13 rests on ~~space~~ bearing surface 29, which is arranged directly opposite drive wheel 24. The remaining areas of plate 9 that contact diaphragm element 13 serve solely for guidance, to ensure that diaphragm element 13 does not slip off of bearing surface 29. However, the guidance surfaces formed between diaphragm element 13 and plate 9 cooperate with a loose bedding 30 on the facing plate extremity. A groove 31 is milled into diaphragm element 13 to engage with this loose bedding 30, which receives a retaining pin 32 on plate 9.

4. On page 9, please amend the first paragraph, as follows:

When, for example, drive gearwheel 24 is driven ~~by~~ over the toothed rack 33, diaphragm element 13 is ~~displaced~~ shifted. To reduce friction to a minimum, diaphragm element 13 slides over bearing surface 29 and is also guided by oppositely positioned loose bedding 30. Correspondingly, diaphragm element 14 does not rest on drive gearwheel 24 24', but on bearing surface 29', while spatial guidance is the function of loose bedding 30'.

5. On pages 9 and 10, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 21, as follows:

Figure 5 presents a further, three-dimensional view of a drive unit 17. Motor 22 is arranged on a linkage 23 which drives a drive gearwheel 24 through shaft 25. Another gearwheel 26 is also secured to shaft 25, and cooperates with gearwheel 27. Gearwheel 27 in turn acts on a rotary potentiometer 28 through a shaft ~~40~~ 43. The rotary potentiometer 28 passes an analog value to a control unit (not shown), which emulates the position of lamella 13 in the contour collimator.

6. On page 10, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 12, as follows:

Guide plate 50, which is illustrated in figure 7, clearly shows the specialized shape of notches 51, 52 and their respectively opposed pins 53, 54. This neat arrangement of notches 51, 52, ~~that~~ which also serve as ~~bracing points~~ support bearings, and pins 53, 54, ~~that~~ which also serve as loose bedding, allows for highly precise positioning of the diaphragm elements. The guide plate is manufactured by wire EDM. This process is inexpensive, fast, and above all extremely accurate.

7. On pages 10 and 11, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 19 of page 10, as follows:

The principle of the invention is not limited to the embodiment that has been described up to this point. It may be implemented in many different ways. Therefore, the embodiment in figure 8 is to

be understood as purely exemplary in nature, wherein guide plate 60 is furnished with round notches 61, 62. These round notches 61, 62 serve as ~~bracing points~~ support bearings and cooperate with the opposing grooves 63, 64, which serve as a loose bedding.

8. On page 11, please amend the first full paragraph, as follows:

The section in figure 9 illustrates more clearly the way in which a diaphragm element 65 is arranged between a ~~bracing point~~ support bearing 61 and a loose bedding ~~63~~ 64. Accordingly, diaphragm element 65 displays ~~an~~ a rounded extension 67 at one end 66 and a spring extension 69 at the other end 68. The rounded extension 67 is supported in rounded notch 61 and on this side it engages with the drive unit (not shown). Spring extension 69 is seated in groove 64, which is larger than the extension to compensate for longitudinal deviations. This embodiment can also be manufactured easily by wire EDM.